

#### ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A recording apparatus such as an optical disk and a file management method are disclosed by which wastefulness caused by free slots in an index file can be reduced. To each slot of a property entry of the index file, valid/invalid information representative of whether the slot is valid or invalid is set. Further, to the header of the property entry, a last valid slot number indicative of a last one of those slots which are set to valid with the valid/invalid information is set.